



# BOLTON

## Worcester County



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## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

The Town of Bolton is a residential and agricultural community on the uplands east of the Nashua River Valley on an historic east-west corridor. Its geography greatly shaped its history. Bolton has gently sloping hills but no major streams, so the earliest sources of power for manufacturing were not present and the town from its earliest years was primarily an agricultural community with only a small percentage of industry. But Bolton had rich forests and geological deposits of lime which combined to supplement the farming economy. The town had lime kilns and limestone quarries, and produced potash, lime and bricks.

The town was settled early by Europeans, in 1675. It consisted then of prosperous dispersed farms and its population increased very slowly after King Philip's wars. Agricultural uses grew to include orchards and dairy farming by the 19th century. Much of this rural landscape is still intact in a town that is now primarily a residential suburb for surrounding industrial communities and an exurb for the greater I-495 corridor.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



# GEOGRAPHY

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## Location

Central Massachusetts, bordered by Harvard on the north, Stow on the east, Berlin and Hudson on the south, and Clinton and Lancaster on the west. Bolton is 17 miles northeast of Worcester, 31 miles northwest of Boston, and 191 miles from New York City.

**Total Area:** 20.00 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 19.93 sq. miles

**Population:** 3,134

**Density:** 157 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Clinton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.4°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.3°F

Normal annual precipitation.....47.0"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Hudson, Clinton

## Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



# GOVERNMENT

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## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (978) 779-2297

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Open Town Meeting

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1738

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	2,090		
Democrats	389	18.6	%
Republicans	362	17.3	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	1,339	64.1	%

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Bolton town, Worcester County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	4,148	100.0	<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE</b>		
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>			Total population.....	4,148	100.0
Male.....	2,082	50.2	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	33	0.8
Female.....	2,066	49.8	Mexican.....	4	0.1
Under 5 years.....	331	8.0	Puerto Rican.....	7	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	368	8.9	Cuban.....	1	-
10 to 14 years.....	380	9.2	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	21	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	229	5.5	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	4,115	99.2
20 to 24 years.....	93	2.2	White alone.....	4,029	97.1
25 to 34 years.....	389	9.4	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b>		
35 to 44 years.....	904	21.8	Total population.....	4,148	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	778	18.8	In households.....	4,148	100.0
55 to 59 years.....	275	6.6	Householder.....	1,424	34.3
60 to 64 years.....	143	3.4	Spouse.....	1,097	26.4
65 to 74 years.....	156	3.8	Child.....	1,444	34.8
75 to 84 years.....	87	2.1	Own child under 18 years.....	1,236	29.8
85 years and over.....	15	0.4	Other relatives.....	75	1.8
Median age (years).....	38.3	(X)	Under 18 years.....	17	0.4
18 years and over.....	2,885	69.6	Nonrelatives.....	108	2.6
Male.....	1,414	34.1	Unmarried partner.....	58	1.4
Female.....	1,471	35.5	In group quarters.....	-	-
21 years and over.....	2,824	68.1	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	324	7.8	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	258	6.2	<b>HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE</b>		
Male.....	118	2.8	Total households.....	1,424	100.0
Female.....	140	3.4	Family households (families).....	1,202	84.4
<b>RACE</b>			With own children under 18 years.....	636	44.7
One race.....	4,128	99.5	Married-couple family.....	1,097	77.0
White.....	4,055	97.8	With own children under 18 years.....	570	40.0
Black or African American.....	8	0.2	Female householder, no husband present.....	73	5.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	2	-	With own children under 18 years.....	47	3.3
Asian.....	54	1.3	Nonfamily households.....	222	15.6
Asian Indian.....	6	0.1	Householder living alone.....	159	11.2
Chinese.....	24	0.6	Householder 65 years and over.....	44	3.1
Filipino.....	-	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	651	45.7
Japanese.....	1	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	185	13.0
Korean.....	14	0.3	Average household size.....	2.91	(X)
Vietnamese.....	2	-	Average family size.....	3.18	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	7	0.2	<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	1,476	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	1,424	96.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	1	-	Vacant housing units.....	52	3.5
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	-	-	occasional use.....	4	0.3
Some other race.....	8	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.0	(X)
Two or more races.....	20	0.5	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	7.8	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>		
<i>or more other races:</i> <sup>3</sup>			Occupied housing units.....	1,424	100.0
White.....	4,073	98.2	Owner-occupied housing units.....	1,330	93.4
Black or African American.....	12	0.3	Renter-occupied housing units.....	94	6.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	8	0.2	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.99	(X)
Asian.....	66	1.6	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.87	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	2	-			
Some other race.....	11	0.3			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

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**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 0

Conventional Federal: 0

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



# TRANSPORTATION

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## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Bolton is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

### Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 85, 110, and 117, and Interstate Route 495, the outer belt around Boston.

### Rail

There is no passenger or freight rail service in Bolton, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts is easily accessible.

### Bus

Bolton is not affiliated with a regional transit authority.

### Other

Minute Man Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility located in Stow, is easily accessible. It has a 1,600'x 50' gravel runway and a 2,743'x 50' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision. Approaches: Copter.



# CULTURE AND RECREATION

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## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

## MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Bolton Historical Society  
676 Main Street  
(978) 779-6392

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



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# MISCELLANEOUS

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## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

None

### Long Term Care

None

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

None

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.